GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5673
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
STOPPING OF FLOW OF TERMINATOR SEEDS
A. KRISHNASWAMY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have taken a decision to stop the flow of Terminator Seeds into the Indian Market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)&(b): The Government have taken steps to ensure that seeds containing `Terminator gene` do not enter the Indian market. These steps include:-

1. Issue of instructions to all Permit Issuing Authorities, that before issuingimport permits for seeds, they should satisfy themselves that such seeds are not having Terminator gene.

2. The Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers` Rights Bill, 2001, which hasbeen passed by Lok Sabha, has a provision that no registration shall be made of a variety which involves any technology, including Terminator Technology and Genetic Use Restriction Technology, which is injurious to the life or health of human beings, animals or plants.

3. In the revised Seeds Act, it has been proposed that seeds containing Terminator Technology will not be allowed for marketing in the country.